



Chula Vista Sustainable Energy Showcase Home Project Overview



The City of Chula Vista, ConSol, and San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E) Emerging Technologies Program are leading a team that will upgrade an average home in a typical neighborhood to demonstrate how average can become extraordinary, efficient, attractive, comfortable, and cost effective. The *Chula Vista Sustainable Energy Showcase Home* project team — which also includes General Electric (GE), California Center for Sustainable Energy (CCSE), the County of San Diego, and Sweetwater Authority — will upgrade the house to achieve deep energy savings of over 50%. The house will be open to the public for events that promote affordable and effective home energy improvements and energy efficiency rebate programs.

The City of Chula Vista, in collaboration with Community HousingWorks purchased the distressed property in September 2011 at a substantial discount through Chase's Community Revitalization Program. Once home renovations are completed, the property will be resold to a qualifying low-income family through the Chula Vista First-Time Homebuyer Assistance Program.

Energy upgrades are being funded by SDG&E, while their installation is being completed through CCSE and the County of San Diego's GETUP green jobs training program. The workforce training consists of participants who are unemployed or underemployed who want to gain hands-on experience with building energy performance and installing energy-efficient lighting, insulation, air sealing, water heating, and HVAC systems.

In addition to the energy efficiency improvements, GE will be installing a state-of-the-art 2.4 kW solar photovoltaic array to reduce the home's energy demand and carbon footprint. It will be the first demonstration of its new "plug & play" solar energy system technology, which is uniquely designed to be cost-effectively installed during reroofing activities. GE will also be installing a home energy network to help the future homeowners track and manage their energy use.

The *Chula Vista Sustainable Energy Showcase Home* will be highlighted through public open houses, on-site contractor trainings, and video case studies. The home will also serve as a demonstration site for the Energy Upgrade California Community Savings Initiative, which helps to bring together neighborhood residents to get the benefits of home energy efficiency upgrades at a lower cost. In addition to statewide Energy Upgrade California incentives, Chula Vista residents are able to receive special incentives and 0%-interest loans through the City's Home Upgrade, Carbon Downgrade program to support their home energy improvements.

Project Highlights

- Building performance training for unemployed contractors and green energy program graduates
- High efficiency appliances, space & water heating, insulation, windows, lighting, and water fixtures
- 2.4 kW GE solar photovoltaic system
- Over 50% energy savings
- Resold to a low-income family through First-Time Homebuyer Assistance program

Energy Upgrade California is a partnership of the California Energy Commission and the California Public Utilities Commission and is funded by California utility customers. The Community Savings Initiative, GETUP workforce training, and Chula Vista Home Upgrade, Carbon Downgrade programs are also funded in part through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Solar energy upgrades are being funded through a General Electric donation and a California Solar Initiative grant.

